



# News Release

STATE OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.  
Governor

Michael S. Steele  
Lt. Governor

Mary Ann Saar  
Secretary

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**Governor Ehrlich and State Leaders Dedicate  
New Public Safety Education and Training Center  
*Facility to serve as training ground for law enforcement  
Agencies throughout Maryland***

SYKESVILLE, MD (November, 30, 2004) – Today, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., joined community leaders and law enforcement representatives from throughout the state for the grand opening of the Maryland Public Safety Education and Training Center (PSETC). Representatives of the Maryland State Police and Correctional Officers from the Division of Correction took part in the ceremony, color guard parade and raising of the flags. Students from Liberty and Century High Schools in Carroll County provided musical accompaniment.

Today's event recognizes the completion of the Academic/Administrative, Dormitory and Physical Training buildings of the PSETC. The Center serves both state and local law enforcement and correctional agencies. The new components join a Driver Training Center and Firearms Training Facility previously completed.

In his remarks, Governor Ehrlich stressed the importance of such a facility to maintaining public safety. "Maryland's troopers, sheriffs' deputies, police, correctional officers, and parole and probation agents have a crucial role in protecting our quality of life and the safety of our citizens. We owe them the best training and support available. That is why we built the Public Safety Education and Training Center."

Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services' Secretary Mary Ann Saar says today's law enforcement agencies have to be prepared to undertake new problems in public safety that have not yet been recognized. "Without a highly trained and professional workforce, we will be ill equipped to perform our mission." She added, "I believe this community of learning is committed to developing the skills that our law enforcement professionals need to get the job done."

The project renovated surplus state buildings on the grounds of Springfield Hospital Center in an historically sensitive manner. Funding was principally provided through the special Law Enforcement and Correctional Training Fund, which receives its non-tax revenue from assessment of District Court costs. The newly completed facilities cost \$44.2 million.

The state of the art Center will house training functions of the Maryland State Police, Divisions of Corrections and Parole and Probation, the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, the Department of Natural Resources as well as locally employed officers from throughout Maryland.

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